

Issue 7 March 30, 2007

Inside this Issue:

Hospital Corpsman First Class Kerrigan Awarded Naval Clinical Optician of the Year 2006 2

100 Additional Recon Corpsmen Needed 2

New Homes for the Wounded and their Families 3

Conference Brings Services Together to Talk About Preventive Medicine 4

Naval Hospital Jacksonville Honors Some of Navy Medicine's Best 5

Items of Interest:

Anne Schuchat Promoted to Flag Rank. CDC celebrated the ceremonial swearing in of Assistant Surgeon General Anne Schuchat, as a Rear Admiral in the United States Public Health Service. Mitch Cohen, MD (RADM USPHS), and director of Coordinating Center for Infectious Diseases (CCID), served as Master of Ceremony for the event. Also present at the ceremony was Acting Surgeon General Kenneth Moritsugu (RADM USPHS) who spoke highly of Schuchat. "During the course of her tenure at CDC, she has joined colleagues across the agency for numerous emergency response activities, including the 2001 anthrax bioterrorism response and the 2003 SARS outbreak, where she headed the Beijing City epidemiology team for the China office of the World Health Organization." For more info on Schuchat, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/about/news/2007/03/schuchat.htm>

Navy and Marine Corps Medical News

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New Patient Satisfaction Survey Pilot Scheduled for Release in March

By Bureau of Navy Medicine and Surgery Public Affairs

WASHINGTON – The pilot phase of a Navy-wide Patient Satisfaction Survey is scheduled for release in March 2007.

"The patient satisfaction survey will enable our medical beneficiaries to report their experiences with their providers and the medical treatment facilities (MTF) they visit," said Navy Surgeon General, Vice Adm. Donald Arthur. "Patient responses to the survey will be valid indicators of the quality of Navy healthcare. Providers and MTFs can use important patient feedback to take immediate action to improve overall patient care."

During this pilot phase, randomly selected beneficiaries receiving care at Navy Military Treatment Facilities (MTF) listed below will receive a letter via mail with detailed instructions for completing a questionnaire:

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- National Naval Medical Center Bethesda
- Naval Medical Center Portsmouth
- Naval Medical Center San Diego
- Naval Hospital Lemoore
- Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune
- Naval Hospital Charleston
- Naval Hospital Beaufort
- Naval Hospital Bremerton
- Naval Hospital Naples
- Naval Hospital Yokosuka
- Naval Health Clinic Quantico
- Naval Health Clinic Annapolis
- Naval Health Clinic Patuxent River

(Continued on page 3)



ROCHESTER, N.Y. – U.S. Navy veteran Paul E. Baker, center, receives applause after receiving a Bronze Star with Combat "V" from the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV), the Honorable Dr. Donald C. Winter, left. March 23. Baker was awarded for his actions 62 years ago on the island of Iwo Jima, while serving as a Pharmacist 1st Class providing care to wounded Marines in battle. *U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Shawn P. Eklund*

Hospital Corpsman First Class Kerrigan Awarded Naval Clinical Optician of the Year 2006

By Heidi Linscott, Naval Health Clinic Quantico Public Affairs Office

MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO, Va. - Hospital Corpsman First Class Jeff Kerrigan knows what it takes to be the best in his field. On 20 February 2007 the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery presented Kerrigan with the Navy Optometry Clinical Optician of the Year Award for 2006.

He was selected as the best of all Naval Clinical Opticians nominated from over sixty clinics in the Navy. His selection was in recognition for outstanding accomplishments and commitment as a Clinician, Optician and contributor to Navy Optometry. Kerrigan said that he was surprised when he found out he was selected for the award. "To be the one person awarded out of so many others is an honor", he stated.

Kerrigan joined the Navy in July 1997. After Hospital Corps School, he was selected to attend Field Medical Service School (FMSS) and Navy Optician School. "I did not really choose this field, it chose me.

I guess at the time I went through Corps school the Navy needed Optician Technicians and I just happened to be in the right place at the right time," said Kerrigan.

He is currently assigned as the Leading Petty Officer for the Optometry Clinic, Military Medicine Clinic, Mental Health Clinic, and Physical Therapy Clinic, Naval Health Clinic, Quantico, Va.

In the Optometry Clinic, Kerrigan is responsible for ordering and tracking glasses, conducting a variety of visual exams for active duty military members, family members and retirees. He believes that it takes more than just being good at your specialty to excel in the Navy. "It takes hard work, leadership and a willingness to go above and beyond your normal duties. I don't feel that I would have been nominated and selected for this award if I did not give 100% every day and make the effort and time to volunteer for additional collateral duties within the command," he said.

Kerrigan's other duties include Department Decontamination Leading Petty Officer, Voting Assistance



NAVAL HEALTH CLINIC, QUANTICO, Va. - Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Jeff Kerrigan conducts a routine eye exam on a fellow health clinic staff member. U.S. Navy photo by Heidi Linscott

Officer, Mass Casualty Leading Petty Officer, Clinic Third Party Collections Supervisor, and Safety, Supply and Infection Control Petty Officer for the Optometry Clinic.

Kerrigan would like to make a career of the Navy and continue in the field of Optometry. "I really enjoy what I do and hope that the Navy continues this program. The work is challenging, I learn something new every day. I am very proud to wear this uniform and serve my country," he said.

100 Additional Recon Corpsmen Needed

By Cpl. Patrick J. Floto, Marine Corpsman Base Camp Pendleton

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. - Many hospital corpsmen pride themselves in their position on the ground with the grunts. Now, more hospital corpsmen will have the opportunity to practice their trade in the air, land and sea with the Marine Corps' elite as Fleet Marine Force Reconnaissance Corpsmen.

"We want highly motivated corpsmen of above-average intelligence who are willing to step up to the plate," said Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Rudy J. Lopez, Fleet Marine Force Amphibious Reconnaissance Corpsman, 1st Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Marine Division. "First and foremost, our applicants are out for the challenge to become part of something special."

The challenge: 79 weeks of training in schools offered by the Marine Corps, Navy and Army.

The schools consist of the Field Medical Service School, Diving Medical Course, Basic Reconnaissance Course, Combatant Divers Course, Basic Airborne School, Special Operation Combat Medic's Course and Special Operations Medical Sergeant.

"You really learn exactly who you are when you undergo some of the toughest training the U.S. Armed Forces has to offer. The camaraderie experienced in these schools is untouchable," said Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Kyle Gribi, a corpsman approximately halfway through the training.

In addition to these schools, corpsmen are able to attend just about every special warfare school offered by the United States.

"Corpsmen are easily one of the most diverse ratings in the Armed Forces," explained Lopez, citing a corpsman who was the top graduate of the Scout Sniper course.

Once complete with all schooling, a corpsman will receive multiple pay incentives according to which schools the corpsman attended.

In order to be eligible, a corpsman should be between the grades of E-1 and E-6, younger than 35 years of age, no non-judicial punishments within the past 12 months and able to fulfill the three-year obligation.

For more information on becoming a Fleet Marine Force Reconnaissance Corpsman, contact Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Heath E. Harbison at (760) 725-8912.

New Homes for the Wounded and their Families

By Lance Cpl. Brian D. Jones, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. - A ribbon cutting ceremony took place here March 15, at Paradise Point, where three homes located there were generously donated by Atlantic Marine Corps Communities to Hope for the Warriors.

"This project is great for bringing the community together in support of our wounded Marines," said Col. Adele E. Hodges, commanding officer of Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune. "These are our partners out in the community coming to support these Marines and sailors aboard this installation and this is a great partnership."

The 1,100 square foot houses are to serve the military community much like Fisher Houses that provide free lodging to veterans and military families while service members receive treatment at military medical centers.

Two of the houses, named War-

rior Home I and II, will be used to provide families free short-term housing to visit their wounded service member at the Wounded Warrior Barracks and Camp Lejeune Naval Hospital. This includes families of wounded warriors, fallen warriors and wounded stationed elsewhere returning here from deployment for their units' homecomings. The homes will also be used as transitional adaptive lodging for Wounded Warriors with spouses and children.

"Our mission is very simple, we create people places. We design, develop, build, operate and manage great people places for United States military families," said Marc Sierra, vice president of Actus Lend Lease.

The Warrior Homes are furnished by donations from local businesses and community members. Each house is a comfortable living space of two bedrooms, office, living room, dining room, kitchen and one bath. The houses are equipped with a full kitchen, laundry facilities,



MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP LEJEUNE -

A ribbon cutting ceremony took place on base when three renovated houses were donated to Hope for the Warriors by Atlantic Marine Corps Communities on March 15. Maj. Gen. Kenneth J. Glueck, Commanding General of 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, Robin Kelleher, president of Hope for the Warriors, Shannon Maxwell, vice-president of Hope for the Warriors, Col. Adele E. Hodges, Commanding Officer Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, Marc Sierra, vice president of Actus Lend Lease, supported the event by attending and cutting the ribbon. *U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Brian Jones*

(Continued on page 5)

Survey continued...

(Continued from page 1)

Beneficiaries will be given a choice of responding via mail or online through the use of a password protected website; others will be asked to complete the survey through a phone based interactive voice response system. With all three response methods, the respondent's anonymity and all information obtained will be held in strictest confidence.

Full Navy deployment of the patient satisfaction survey is scheduled for later this year. At full deployment, patients of approximately 3000 clinical providers will be surveyed.

All survey recipients are encouraged to participate in the patient satisfaction survey. Patient feedback concerning their healthcare experiences will help Navy Medicine to better serve its beneficiaries.



BARGONI, Kenya - Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Kenneth Russell listens as he takes the blood pressure of Neena, a native to Barigoni, Kenya during a Medical Civil Assistance Project (MEDCAP) at Barigoni School, March 7. The MEDCAP was part of bilateral exercise Edged Mallet 2007, a U.S. and Kenyan military exercise designed to enhance interoperability and tactical proficiency of Kenyan and U.S. Forces, while providing practical training for medical specialists. *U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jeremy L. Grisham*

Conference Brings Services Together to Talk About Preventive Medicine

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Joseph R. Wax, Fleet Public Affairs Center Atlantic

HAMPTON, Va. - The Navy Environmental Health Center (NEHC) hosted the 46th annual Navy Occupational Health and Preventive Medicine Conference at the Hampton Roads Convention Center March 17 - 22.

Service members and civilians worldwide came to the conference to attend classes, speeches and symposiums on this year's topic, "Public Health in a Globalized World".

"This provides a venue for our Sailors to network with the best people out there, so we can provide the best medical service available," said NEHC Command Master Chief (SW/AW/SCW) Dana Goodwin. "We bring public health vendors together to talk about public health issues and share the things that have been learned."

Many of the speakers addressed a need for injury prevention and preventive medicine.

"We are here talking about proactive approaches," said Army Brig. Gen. Mike Cates, Commander Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine (CHPPM). "Prevention is the best way to health."

During his speech, Cates pointed to the lifestyles of some military members as a factor affecting their health. Cates spoke more specifically about Soldiers, but stated that the trends were similar across all services.

"We have to do a better job of informing our junior personnel, so they can make better decisions," said Cates.

NEHC Commanding Officer, Capt. Bill Stover, emphasized

the important role the members of the health care community play.

"We carry an immense burden to prepare for future events and protect our service members," said Stover. "Preventive medicine and public health is a deterrent. There has to be a commitment on our part to promote these ideas."

The weeklong conference allowed guests the opportunity to attend a variety of classes and lectures on topics within the public health spectrum. Many of those classes were led by the experts in their respective field, such as Rear Adm. Greg Smith, Navy Chief of Information (CHINFO), who gave a presentation on risk communication.

Rear Adm. Mike Mittelman, Director of the Medical Service Corps and Deputy Chief of Staff, Human Resources at the Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED), heralded the collective effort of all services in providing the care service members need.

"We are providing the best possible care available," he said. "If we didn't do this as a team there is no way we would have the results we have."

All of the speakers and instructors stressed the great job they felt the health care community was doing. However, they also made it known that there is work left to be done, and preventive medicine needs to be on everyone's mind. Cates made this point clear with a slogan he repeated constantly during his address.

"Prevention is the best way to health," he said.



NAVAL HOSPITAL LENMOORE, Calif. - As part of his visit to Naval Air Station, Lemoore, CA in February 2007 the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, Master Chief Joe R. Campa toured Naval Hospital Lemoore. During his tour he took the time to congratulate some of the Sailor of the Quarters and the Sailor of the Year for the Command. As part of his tour he visited the Outpatient Clinics as well as the Medical Surgical and Maternal Infant Units. He also went through the Ancillary services areas of Radiology, Pharmacy and the Laboratory. He talked to many junior sailors and asked many questions concerning deployments, work load and future plans. *U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Susan Davis, Naval Hospital Lemoore Public Affairs*

Naval Hospital Jacksonville Honors Some of Navy Medicine's Best

By Loren Barnes and Marsha Childs, Naval Hospital Jacksonville Public Affairs



JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—Hospital Corpsman 1st Class (FMF) Jerrie F. Echon was named Naval Hospital Jacksonville's Sailor of the Year 2006, March 12. He was recently selected for the Seaman to Admiral -21 Officer Program and is in the process of finishing his nursing degree. *U.S. Navy photo by Loren Barnes and Marsha Childs*



JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—Culinary Specialist 2nd Class (SW/AW) Sonny C. Lalatag was named Naval Hospital Jacksonville Junior Sailor of the Year 2006 from the hospital's Nutrition Department, March 12. In addition, he was just selected for a duty assignment at the White House in Washington, DC. *U.S. Navy photo by Loren Barnes and Marsha Childs*



JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—Culinary Specialist Seaman Jason R. Daniels was named Naval Hospital Jacksonville's Blue Jacket of the Year 2006. He is a member from the Nutrition Department and serves as the Patient Food Service Cook on Watch. *U.S. Navy photo by Loren Barnes and Marsha Childs*

Homes continued ...

(Continued from page 3)

office with a new computer system and internet service, family fun box



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of toys and games, screened in porch and covered carport.

The Warrior Houses have also been renovated to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act to accommodate temporary residents, so they may spend time there focusing on the needs of their loved ones with little restriction or unnecessary inconveniences.

The third house will serve as the Warrior House Resource Center that will contain an intimate counseling setting and a conference area for the families and use for the Wounded Warrior Spouses' Support Group. Personnel working there will also attend to the business of governmental and corporate organiza-

tions offering assistance to all wounded and fallen service members and their families.

"These homes are here to make sure the wounded and their families are not alone in their recovery and provide them with people they can turn to in a time of need, through their challenges and to know their sacrifices will never be forgotten," said Shannon Maxwell, Hope for the Warriors vice president and co-founder. "This was a team endeavor and it will remain that way."

The Warrior Houses are dedicated to the families of all the wounded and fallen service members with respect and gratitude for the sacrifices they've endured.

Got News? If you'd like to submit an article or have an idea for one, contact MEDNEWS at 202-762-3221, fax 202-762-1705 or camahoney@us.med.navy.mil.